



## CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 22, 2010

3:30 pm

ROOM B

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING

DRAFT

Present: Isabelle Atwood (Chair), Rudy Favretti, Mary Landeck, Barry Burnham, Winston Hawkins

Excused: Jane Reinhardt

Staff present: Lon Hultgren, Mary Stanton, Carolyn Stearns (Sexton)

- Mr. Favretti moved and Mr. Burnham seconded to approve the minutes of the 6/23/2010 meeting as corrected. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

- Restoration Work

Chair Isabelle Atwood updated members on restoration efforts in the cemeteries. Ms. Landeck and Mr. Burnham met with Jonathan Appell and reviewed the work needed to be done in the Mt Hope Cemetery. They were both very impressed with his work in Mansfield Center and his approach to the restoration work that needs to be done in the other cemeteries. Mr. Appell has been contracted to proceed with the restorations at a cost of \$4200.00.

Committee members agreed that restoration work will be scheduled one cemetery at a time.

- Maintenance

Mr. Burnham and Ms. Landeck reported on tree work that needs to be done in the Mount Hope Cemetery. Mr. Burnham, Mr. Favretti and Mr. Hultgren will assess the needs there and in the Gurley Cemetery.

Members reported on damage being done by the mowers and trimmers in many of the cemeteries. Ms. Atwood has asked Mr. Dillman to contact her to discuss the damage. Members agreed that if no improvements are made in the near future the Committee will change vendors.

Mr. Hultgren will ask John Clark to address the ruts and settled graves in the cemeteries. Mr. Hultgren reported that mulched leaves will be spread in the new cremation cemetery to address the weed problem. The Town crew will fix the southwest corner of the wall at the Mansfield Center Cemetery and the new patch that needs mending in the wall at the Pink Cemetery. The shed at the New Mansfield Cemetery will need to be painted in the near future.

- Sexton Report

Sexton Carolyn Stearns provided the following report:

- Requested permission to remove the 2x4 lumber that was left after the repair of the Rev Salter monument. Members agreed.
- Suggested the Town approach UConn regarding possible acquisition of land around the Gurley Cemetery. Mr. Hultgren is in discussion with the real estate office of the University and will broach the subject.
- Reported a tree branch is rubbing the 1775 stone of William William in the Gurley Cemetery. Mr. Hultgren will address.

- Reported both the finding of golf balls and woodchucks in the New Mansfield Cemetery. The police have been asked to monitor the area and ask any golfers to aim elsewhere. The family whose plot is currently inhabited by the woodchuck will be contacted regarding the removal of the trees near the grave.
- Noted the existing road in Section D of the New Mansfield Center Cemetery is not the same place as the road on the plan. This discrepancy means that many of the plots in that area cannot be sold. Mr. Hultgren agreed that Public Works could scrape a new road hopefully next year.
- Suggested ways to better identify the sections of the New Mansfield Cemetery for visitors.
- Meeting Dates  
By consensus the Committee agreed to approve the following meeting dates for 2011: March 23, June 22, and September 21.
- Other  
Mr. Favretti reported seeing lights in back of the Riverside Burying Grounds and agreed to investigate. He will report back to Mr. Hultgren.  
Mr. Favretti also updated the Committee regarding plans to use sonar to determine areas that might be available for burials. Mr. Favretti contacted both Mr. Clouette and Mr. Belantoni after the last meeting. Mr. Belantoni, the State Archaeologist, offered to do the work free of charge since he has a similar project in the area. Mr. Favretti recently received an email from Mr. Bellantoni letting him know the person who was to do the sonar project has been ill and the project is on hold. Committee members agreed that Mr. Favretti should pursue other options.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P M

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk